

California Conservation Corps**Monterey Bay Center**

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November 3, 2004

CCC CREWS TACKLE FLOOD TRAINING TO PREPARE FOR WINTER

Twenty-five members of the California Conservation Corps will get hands-on training in floodfighting techniques Thursday in preparation for this winter's storms. After a morning of classroom instruction, the afternoon will focus on practical experience.

The corpsmembers are from the Monterey Bay area and San Jose. Rick Burnett, flood fight specialist with the state Department of Water Resources and 1970s CCC corpsmember, will lead the day's exercises.

Time/Day: 2 to 4 p.m., Thursday, November 4

Location: Sunset State Beach, 16 miles south of Santa Cruz via Highway One and San Andreas Road. Park near the covered picnic area and take the trail to the day-use beach.

Work: The corpsmembers will work in stations, learning to properly fill and place sandbags, to lay heavy plastic to protect levees from erosion, and to construct a sandbag wall or ring to prevent water seepage.

Some of the corpsmembers had a chance to pick up sandbagging skills last June, when they were dispatched to the Jones Tract levee break in the San Joaquin Delta.

The CCC, a state department under the Resources Agency, hires young men and women for a year of natural resource work and emergency response. Since its inception in 1976, the Corps estimates it has filled more than one million sandbags in responding to floods and mudslides.

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